

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier listings and all earlier versions.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of processing at least part of a data set of multimedia input information, the data set comprising at least one of video data, still-image data, and audio data, the method comprising the steps of:

determining first meta-data from at least one of (a) the data set, and (b) second meta-data associated with the at least one data set;

determining, depending upon the first meta-data, a set of instructions from a template; and

applying the instructions to the data set to produce processed output data

A method according to claim 26, wherein:

the multimedia content is a data set comprising at least one of video data, still-image data and audio data;

the attribute characterizing the multimedia content comprises first meta-data derived from the data set and possibly further derived from second meta-data associated with the at least one data set;

the operating step comprises determining, depending upon the first meta-data, a set of instructions from the pre-defined template; and

the applying step comprises applying the instructions to the data set to produce processed output data.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of determining the first meta-data includes the sub-steps of:

receiving information from a user dependent upon a user perception of at least one of the input data set, and the processed output data; and  
incorporating the user information into the first meta-data.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a temporal mapping process and the applying step comprises:

applying the temporal mapping process to the data set to produce modified temporally structured processed output data.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a temporal mapping process and an effects mapping process, and wherein the applying step comprises the sub-steps of:

applying the temporal mapping process to the data set to produce modified temporally structured data; and

applying the effects mapping process to the modified temporally structured data to produce the processed output data.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the data comprises a live capture data set segment.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the template is constructed using heuristic incorporation of experiential information of an expert.

8. - 10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing at least part of a data set of multi-media input information, the data set comprising at least one of video data, still-image data, and audio data, the apparatus comprising:

capture means adapted to capture the data set;  
first determining means for determining first meta-data from at least one of (a) the data set, and (b) second meta-data associated with the at least one data set;  
second determining means for determining, depending upon the first meta-data, a set of instructions from a template; and

application means for applying the instructions to the data set to produce processed output data, wherein said first and second determination means and said application means are housed on board the capture means An apparatus according to claim 27, wherein:

the multimedia content is a data set comprising at least one of video data, still-image data and audio data;

the attribute characterizing the multimedia content comprises first meta-data derived from the data set and possibly further derived from second meta-data associated with the at least one data set;

the operating means are adapted to determine, depending upon the first meta-data, a set of instructions from the pre-defined template; and

the application means are adapted to apply the instructions to the data set to produce processed output data.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing at least part of a data set of multi-media input information, the data set comprising at least one of video data, still-image data, and audio data, the apparatus comprising:

capture means adapted to capture the data set;

first determining means for determining first meta-data from at least one of said (a) the data set, and (b) second meta-data associated with the at least one data set;

second determining means for determining, depending upon the first meta-data, a set of instructions from a template; and

application means for applying the instructions to the data set to produce processed output data, wherein said first and second determination means and said application means are distributed between the capture means and an off-board processor

An apparatus according to claim 28, wherein:

the multimedia content is a data set comprising at least one of video data, still-image data and audio data;

the attribute characterizing the multimedia content comprises first meta-data derived from the data set and possibly further derived from second meta-data associated with the at least one data set;

the operating means are adapted to determine, depending upon the first meta-data, a set of instructions from the pre-defined template; and

the application means are adapted to apply the instructions to the data set to produce processed output data.

13. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the template includes one or more of rules and references heuristically based upon experience of an expert.

14. - (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) A computer readable memory medium storing a program for apparatus which processes at least part of a data set of multi-media input information, the data set comprising at least one of video data, still-image data, and audio data, the program comprising:

\_\_\_\_\_ code for a first determining step, of determining first meta-data from at least one of (a) the data set, and (b) second meta-data associated with the at least one data set;

\_\_\_\_\_ code for a second determining step, of determining, depending upon the first meta-data, a set of instructions from a template; and

\_\_\_\_\_ code for an applying step, of applying the instructions to the data set to produce processed output data. A computer readable memory medium according to claim 29, wherein:

the multimedia content is a data set comprising at least one of video data, still-image data and audio data;

the attribute characterizing the multimedia content comprises first meta-data derived from the data set and possibly further derived from second meta-data associated with the at least one data set;

the code for operating comprises code for determining, depending upon the first meta-data, a set of instructions from the pre-defined template; and the code for applying comprises code for applying the instructions to the data set to produce processed output data.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of determining the set of instructions comprises the sub-steps of:

constructing, using the template and the first meta-data, a series of directions which refer to at least one of (a) segments of the at least one data set, (b) segments of the template, and (c) other information; and

resolving the references thereby to compile the directions into the set of instructions.

18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the second determining means comprise:

means for constructing, using the template and the first meta-data, a series of directions which refer to at least one of (a) segments of the at least one data set, (b) segments of the template, and (c) other information; and

means for resolving the references thereby to compile the directions into the set of instructions.

19. (Previously Presented) A computer readable memory medium according to claim 15, wherein the code for the second determining step comprises:

code for constructing, using the template and the first meta-data, a series of directions which refer to at least one of (a) segments of the at least one data set, (b) segments of the template, and (c) other information; and

code for resolving the references thereby to compile the directions into the set of instructions.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of processing at least part of a data set of multi-media input content comprising at least one of video content, still-image content, and audio content, the method comprising the steps of:

~~determining meta-data for the input content;~~

~~determining, depending upon the meta-data, at least one of a temporal mapping process, and an effects mapping process from a template; and~~

~~applying the at least one of a temporal mapping process and the effects mapping process to said at least part of the data set to produce processed output content. A method of editing multimedia content, the method comprising the steps of:~~

~~deriving an attribute characterizing a duration of the multimedia content from meta-data of the multimedia content;~~

operating upon the attribute using a pre-defined template to establish an editing process, said editing process including a temporal mapping process and an effects mapping process, said operating step determining the temporal mapping process in accordance with the attribute; and

applying the editing process to the multimedia content to thereby edit the multimedia content.

21. - 23. (Canceled).

24. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 20, wherein the applying step comprises sub steps of:

first applying the temporal mapping process to said at least part of the data set to produce modified temporally structured data, and

second applying the effects mapping process to the modified temporally structured data to produce the processed output content A method according to claim 20, wherein the applying step comprises sub steps of:

first applying the temporal mapping process to the multimedia content to produce modified temporally structured data, and

second applying the effects mapping process to modified temporally structured data to produce the processed output content.

25. (Canceled).

26. (New) A computer-based method of editing multimedia content, the method comprising the steps of:

deriving an attribute characterizing the multimedia content;  
operating upon the attribute using a pre-defined template to establish a computer-based editing process; and  
applying the computer-based editing process to the multimedia content, thereby to edit the multimedia content.

27. (New) A computer-based apparatus for editing multimedia content, the apparatus comprising:

capture means for capturing the multimedia content;  
deriving means for deriving an attribute characterizing the multimedia content;  
operating means for operating upon the attribute using a pre-defined template to establish a computer-based editing process; and  
application means for applying the computer-based editing process to the multimedia content, thereby to edit the multimedia content, wherein the deriving means, the operating means and the application means are housed on board the capture means.

28. (New) A computer based apparatus for editing multimedia content, the apparatus comprising:

capture means for capturing the multimedia content;

deriving means for deriving an attribute characterizing the multimedia content;

operating means for operating upon the attribute using a pre-defined template to establish a computer-based editing process; and

application means for applying the computer-based editing process to the multimedia content, thereby to edit the multimedia content, wherein the deriving means, the operating means and the application means are distributed between the capture means and an off-board processor.

29. (New) A computer readable memory medium for storing a program for apparatus for editing multimedia content, the program comprising:

code for deriving an attribute characterizing the multimedia content;

code for operating upon the attribute using a pre-defined template to establish a computer-based editing process; and

code for applying the computer-based editing process to the multimedia content, thereby to edit the multimedia content.